

Admin. Bldg, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. Leadership development for ages 15-18, with challenging outdoor activities, cultural experiences, and home stays. Registration deadline for the May 29-Jun. 9 trip is Jan. 15. Info: Deb Breazzano, 495-6495 or breazzano@aol.com.

- **A White Bluegrass Christmas** with WireWood Station at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA), Fri., Dec. 12, concert at 7 p.m.; doors open to dinner patrons at 5:45 p.m., dinner served until 6:30 p.m., doors open to concert ticket holders at 6:30 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Catering by Nikki. Concert Tickets Only: Advance \$10 TLCA Members, \$12 Non-Members; Door \$12 & \$14. Dinner patrons must RSVP by 2 p.m., Dec. 10. Tickets & Info (including menu): [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org), 481-0475.
- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Annual Christmas Party** with Chuck Pyle, Fri., Dec. 12, opening act at 7 p.m., Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. In lieu of snacks from the kitchen, there will be a desserts and holiday treats pot luck; no main dishes. Water, tea, coffee, and apple cider will be available at no cost. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 nonmember students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, [jrmtn@comcast.net](mailto:jrmtn@comcast.net), [www.blackroseacoustic.org](http://www.blackroseacoustic.org).
- **Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Advent Retreat** with Ana Cloughly, OSB; Miracles: Gestures of Divine Presence, Sat., Dec. 13, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 3190 Benet Lane, Colo. Springs. Cost: \$40. RSVP & Info: [www.benethillmonastery.org](http://www.benethillmonastery.org), 633-0655.
- **Monument's Small Town Christmas Holiday Open House**, Sat., Dec. 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Celebrate the season with refreshments, music, and holiday open houses in Historic Downtown Monument. Info: 425-8889, [info@monumentmerchants.com](http://info@monumentmerchants.com).
- **Grand Opening: Alpaca Yarn Barn at Tompkins Alpaca Pride**, Sat., Dec. 13 & 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 19710 Oslo Grove, Black Forest. Info: 499-2440, [www.tompkinsalpacapride.com](http://www.tompkinsalpacapride.com).
- **Ribbon Cutting and Launch Party** for 3 Hundred Days of Shine, Sat., Dec. 13, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 279 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Info: Julie Matalus, 481-3282, [www.3hundreddays.com](http://www.3hundreddays.com).
- **Black Forest Community Club: Annual Christmas Potluck**, Sat., Dec. 13, 6 p.m., 12530 Black Forest Rd. (just N. of Shoup). Info: 495-3217, [www.bfcommunityclub.org](http://www.bfcommunityclub.org).
- **Handbell Christmas Concert**, Sat., Dec. 13, 7 p.m., Monument Community Presbyterian Church, 238 Third St., Monument. Bells, chimes, organ, brass, recorders, and vocal selections. Free. Everyone is invited. Info: Betty Jenik, 488-3853.
- **Bethlehem Inn**, Sun., Dec. 14, 10:15 a.m., Crossroads Chapel, 840 North Gate Blvd. Experience the night Jesus was born as told by Mary. Info: 495-3200, [www.crossroadsgleneagle.com](http://www.crossroadsgleneagle.com).
- **Annual Palmer Lake Yule Log Hunt**, Sun., Dec. 14, 1 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Trek up the mountain in search of the Yule Log. Hunt participants should arrive 11 a.m.-noon. The winner will ride the Yule Log back to town and get the first cup of wassail. Non-hunters can stay warm indoors with carols and stories by John Stansfield. Info: 481-2953.
- **Santa Visits the Woodmoor Barn**, Sun., Dec. 14, 3-6:30 p.m., 1691 Woodmoor Dr. Talk individually with Santa, visit with elves and see their workshop, visit the Nativity, sing along with Christmas carolers, enjoy games and refreshments--raf e drawings too. Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 per family. Proceeds benefit Tri-Lakes Cares. Info: 351-2607, [suzie@conciergeon tap.com](mailto:suzie@conciergeon tap.com).
- **Gleneagle Festival of Lights & Hayride**, Sun., Dec. 14, 5-8 p.m., Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 13990 Gleneagle Dr. (off the I-25 North Gate exit). Free to the public, children and their families are invited to an evening of caroling, hayrides, glow sticks, homemade cookies, hot chocolate and coffee with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Boy Scout Troop 194 will offer steaming bowls of chili for a nominal fee. Each hayride, complete with sheriff escorts, will take approximately 25 minutes through the Gleneagle neighborhood. Bring warm coats and blankets. Info: 505-8021.
- **Holy Trinity Anglican Church: "Come to the Light" Music Performance** by Clay Clarkson, Sat., Dec. 20, 7-8:30 p.m., 13990 Gleneagle Dr. Info: 505-8021, [www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org](http://www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org).
- **Holy Trinity Anglican Church: Christmas Eve and Day Services**, Wed., Dec. 24: 4:30 p.m., Teaching:

The King Arrives; 7 p.m., Music: adult quartet; 11 p.m., Candlelight Services. Thu., Dec. 25, 10 a.m., Single service; come casual, eat coffee cake; 13990 Gleneagle Dr. Info: 505-8021, [www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org](http://www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org).

- **Christmas Eve Dinner** at the Villa Palmer Lake, Wed., Dec. 24, 4-8 p.m., 75 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. A special menu and live music. Reservations & Info: 481-2222.
- **Forestgate Presbyterian Church: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**, Wed., Dec. 24, 7 p.m., 970 North Gate Blvd. Info: 495-5672, [www.forestgate.org](http://www.forestgate.org).
- **Holy Trinity Anglican Church: Lessons and Carols**, The Big Story in Scripture, Sun., Dec. 28, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m., 13990 Gleneagle Dr. Info: 505-8021, [www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org](http://www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org).
- **New Year's Eve Dinner at the Villa Palmer Lake**, Wed., Dec. 31, 5-9 p.m., 75 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. A special menu. Reservations & Info: 481-2222.
- **New Year's Eve 80s Prom** at Pikes Peak Brewing Co., Wed., Dec. 31, 7 p.m.-1 a.m., 1756 Lake Woodmoor Dr, Monument. DJs, video games, 3 Hundred Days of Shine cocktails, food by High Grade. Cost: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, \$22 for buffet. Ticket info: 208-4098, [info@pikespeakbrewing.com](mailto:info@pikespeakbrewing.com), [www.pikespeakbrewing.com](http://www.pikespeakbrewing.com).
- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) Family Exploration Day: Geology**, Sat., Jan. 3, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A). Learn about Colorado's mineral formations and mining heritage, identify mineral specimens, see what it is like to run a mining company with 'Cookie Mining,' try your hand at 'Keep What you Find Gold Panning,' and spend some time with the two burro mascots, Nugget and Chism. Cost: \$8 adults, \$7 military/AAA, \$6 seniors & students, \$4 children 3-12, free to children under 3 & museum members. Info: 488-0880, [www.wmmi.org](http://www.wmmi.org).
- **Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) Class**, Thu.-Sat., Jan. 29-31 (16 hours total), 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument (SW of Hwy 83 & County Line Road, east of Kings Deer). Are you ready to be helpful and self-sufficient in a local emergency if emergency responders can't get to you? Free. Open to anyone aged 14 to 94. Taught by volunteers from El Paso County Sheriff's Office, hosted by Emergency Preparedness Group of Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church. RSVP & Info: André, [epg@tlumc.org](mailto:epg@tlumc.org); Lisa, 339-7831.
- **Amateur Radio (ham) Licensing Class**, Sat., Jan. 31 & Feb. 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Black Forest Fire Station One training room, 11445 Teachout Rd., Colo. Springs. The two-day course includes how to use ham radio, especially in emergency situations, live equipment demonstrations, radio and antenna recommendations, and more. Students will prepare to pass the Federal Communications Commission Technician License exam administered after class completion Feb. 7. Cost: \$25, includes the FCC exam fee of \$15. The required textbook is the HamRadioSchool.com Technician License Course, available online at HamRadioSchool.com and at other online retailers. RSVP & Info: Bob Witte, 659-3727 or [bob@k0nr.com](mailto:bob@k0nr.com).
- **Senior Citizen Luncheons**, every Wed., noon-1 p.m., D-38 Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership (HAP) invites area seniors for lunch & activities. Free blood pressure screening 1st & 3rd Wed. \$3 donation requested. Info: 484-0517.
- **Tri-Lakes Church of Christ Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Free) & Classes**, every Wed., 6-7:30 p.m., 20450 Beacon Lite Road, Monument (Corner of Beacon Lite & County Line Roads). Info: 488-9613, [gregsmith@trilakeschurch.org](mailto:gregsmith@trilakeschurch.org), [www.trilakeschurch.org](http://www.trilakeschurch.org).
- **Oakley's Cafe & Bistro**: Live music Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, 1865 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. See the ad in this issue for a BOGO coupon. Info: 481-0808.
- **Al-anon Meeting: Letting Go**, every Thu., 9-10:10 a.m., Tri-Lakes Chapel, room 209, 1750 Deer Creek Rd., Monument. Info: Kay, 481-9258.
- **Villa: Martinis & Music** every Thu., 5-8 p.m., (weather permitting). 75 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Happy Hour Tue.-Sun., 5-6 p.m. New small plates menu. RSVP & Info: 481-2222, [www.TheVillaPalmerLake.com](http://www.TheVillaPalmerLake.com).
- **A.A. Big Book Study**, every Thu., 7 p.m., Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 675 W. Baptist Rd. Info:

481-0431.

*Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call (719) 339-7831 or send the information to [calendar@ocn.me](mailto:calendar@ocn.me) or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.*

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### Letters to Our Community

Our Community News welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest. We do not knowingly print letters that have previously appeared in substantially the same form elsewhere, and our editorial board limits each letter writer to a maximum of six letters per calendar year to ensure that OCN contains a variety of viewpoints. To submit a letter, please:

- Identify your submission as a letter to the editor.
- Include a suggested headline or title.
- Limit letters to 300 words or less.
- Include your full name, home address, and day and evening phone numbers.
- Email your letter to [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me) or mail it to P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742.
- Send your letter at least 10 days before the "first Saturday of the month" when the paper is printed.

If you have not received an acknowledgement of your letter, call Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at (719) 339-7831. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and accuracy.

**Look for our next issue**

**Saturday, Jan. 10**

**Ad Reservations: Fri., Dec. 19**  
**Finished ads in electronic format are due by Fri., Dec. 26**

**Letter Due Date: Fri. Jan. 2**  
Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at **WWW.OCN.ME**

**Our Community News**  
Volunteers reporting on community issues in Monument, Palmer Lake, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes area

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